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# NEWBIGGIN-BY-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT, 1909.

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Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—

In accordance with the instructions issued to the Medical Officers of Health by the Local Government Board, I now submit to you my Annual Report for 1909, which deals with the general sanitary state of your District, the public health during the year, the sanitary work done, the improvements which have been carried out and suggestions for further improvements, and the vital statistics for the year.

**Climatology.**—1909 has been a cold, damp year, but the actual rainfall in the District has been below the normal. The prevailing wind has been from the East.

**House Accommodation.**—The house accommodation has been, but slightly, increased, and owing to the Colliery there is a shortage of suitable small houses, and a considerable amount of overcrowding, which will increase as the Colliery goes ahead, unless provision is made.

There still remains a large number of the older houses, with no through ventilation and certain obstructive buildings in Sea View Lane and Watt's Lane. (Vide previous Annual Reports).

**Sewerage and Drainage.**—The sewers and drains remain as in previous years. Several blocked sewers and drains have been remedied during the year. The scavenging has been much improved this year, and during the three months from July-September, the privy ashpits were cleaned fortnightly. I should strongly recommend that this work should be done by the Council's own men and carts, and failing this, that all privy ashpits should be cleaned fortnightly throughout the whole year.

**Water Supply.**—In the early part of the year, owing to pumping operations at the new Colliery, practically all the wells in the Village ran dry. Pipes were laid from the Colliery to Woodhorn Lane to supply water from the Colliery, but the water was found unsuitable for drinking purposes. An agreement was then entered into with the Representatives of the Milburn Estates to have water supplied from North Seton, and one stand-pipe was erected at the Station, and another opposite the King's Head Inn; and

the supply since then has been fairly satisfactory, except for the inconvenience entailed by having to carry it so far. A full and permanent water supply is the chief need of Newbiggin at the present time.

**Slaughter-houses, Cow-sheds, etc.**—These have been kept in as sanitary a condition as their condition and want of a water supply will allow.

**Factories and Workshops.**—The two factories and workshops have been inspected during the year.

**Schools.**—The sew School is satisfactory, but owing to the accommodation having been found to be too limited, a new wing is at the present time being added to it. The Infant School remains in the same state as last year, and is in need of extensive improvements.

**Byelaws.**—Certain parts of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, are now in force in the District, with conditions and adaptations attached thereto, namely:—

Part 2:—Sections 34-38 inclusive, 43-47 inclusive, 49-51 inclusive, comprised in Part 3.

Sections 52-66 inclusive, and Section 68 comprised in Part 4, Part 5, Part 6, Part 10.

**Nuisances.**—Only minor nuisances have occurred during the year, and have been dealt with as they arose.

**Burying Ground.**—The extension has not yet been consecrated, and therefore is not being used.

**Sanitary Work.**—Monthly inspections of the District have been made by the Sanitary Inspector and myself, and minor matters have been dealt with and the scavenging supervised.

The improvements in 1909 have been as follows:—7 houses built in West Field Estate; 3 shops, workrooms, and 4 houses in Bower Riggs Estate; 1 house in Monck House Estate; alterations and additions to shop and house in Front Street; alterations and additions to Police Buildings; making-up of back street to Brewery Yard; wash-houses to houses in Front Street and Vernon Place.



Projected Improvements.—An enquiry for the extension of the Urban District boundary was held on January 19th, 1909, and as a result of that enquiry the Links were added to the District, to date from April 1st, 1910. This adds an area of 35 acres to the District, on which, at the time of the enquiry, were 66 houses, which have been increased to 80 at the present time.

The part of the Woodhorn District applied for, was not granted, but I think that it is very advisable that this portion should also be added to the Urban District, owing to the number of houses being and likely to be built just outside the present boundary.

Plans for the pipe line from the Tyne-mouth Corporation's water main at Ewart Hill to Newbiggin have been prepared and this water scheme is now waiting for the Local Government Board enquiry and sanction for the loan to carry out the work.

There are still a number of the streets and private house yards unpaved and should be made up under powers of Section 150 of Public Health Act, and Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

The medical inspection of school children under the Education (Administrative Provision) Act, 1907, has been carried out during the year by a Medical Officer appointed by the County Council.

Disease Incidence.—There have been no epidemics of notifiable infectious disease. In the early part of the year whooping cough was prevalent, and during the summer

months there was an epidemic of measles, owing to which the schools had to be closed a fortnight earlier than usual for the Summer holidays. There have been four notifications of infectious disease during the year, namely:—2 diphtheria, 1 scarlet fever, and 1 erysipelas.

Statistics.—Estimated population, 2,875.

There has been 118 births and 46 deaths. The birth-rate is 41 per 1,000 per annum, an increase of 8.7 per 1,000.

The general death-rate 16 per 1,000 per annum, the corrected rate 15.6 per 1,000, a decrease of .9 per 1,000.

Deaths of infants under 1 year, number 10, giving an infant mortality rate of 84 per 1,000 births registered, a decrease of 130 per 1,000.

The zymotic death-rate is 1.04.

The phthisis death-rate is nil.

Causes of and ages at death (Vide Table IV.)

Infant mortality (Vide Table V.)

The sanitary state of the District and the public health at the end of the year was satisfactory.

HAROLD HART-JACKSON,  
M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.),  
Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1909 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths under 1 year of age Registered in the District.		Total Deaths, all ages, Registered in the District.		Total deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	* Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1000 births registered.	Number.	* Rate.				Number	* Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	1925	77	40	12	155	33	17.1					
1900	1981	75	37.8	7	93	30	15.1					
1901	2032	84	41.3	21	250	39	19.1					
1902	2250	79	35.1	7	88	34	15.1					
1903	2400	88	36.6	15	170	33	13.7					
1904	2450	86	35.1	11	127	52	21.2					
1905	2530	87	34.3	14	160	44	17.3				41	16.2
1906	2550	82	32.1	11	134	39	15.2					
1907	2600	69	26.5	5	72	25	9.6				24	9.2
1908	2600	84	32.3	18	214	44	16.9				43	16.5
Averages for years 1899-1908.	2331	81	35.5	12	146	37	16					
1909	2875	118	41	10	84	46	16				45	15.6

\* Rates in Columns 4 and 8 should be calculated per 1,000 of the estimated gross population. In districts in which large public institutions seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Column 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 337. Total population } At census  
at all ages, 2,022. Number of inhabited houses, 440. Average number of persons } of 1901.  
per house, 4.5.

TABLE III.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1909.

Notifiable Diseases.	Cases notified in whole District.						
	At all ages.	Under 1 year	1 to 5 yrs.	5 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 65 yrs.	65 yrs and upwards.
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals.	4	—	1	2	1	—	—

Isolation Hospital on Newbiggin Moor  
(Small-pox only.)

TABLE IV.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1909.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined ages.							Deaths at all Ages in or beyond the District.						Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	All ages.	Under 1 year.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Measles ...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	5	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	8	1	2	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	3	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases ...	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accidents ...	3	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Debility ...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senile Decay ...	4	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ...	6	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes ...	4	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Causes ..	46	10	10	1	2	11	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...



TABLE V.—INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.  
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 months.	2-3 months.	3-4 months.	4-5 months.	5-6 months.	6-7 months.	7-8 months.	8-9 months.	9-10 months.	10-11 months.	11-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes	Certified ..	6	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	10
	Uncertified ..																	
Whooping Cough		...	...	..	...	.....	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Diarrhœa, all forms		...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis		...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth		1	...	..	...	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus		1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Convulsions ..		3	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bronchitis		1	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	1
Pneumonia ..		...	...	..	...	.....	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	...	...	..	1	2
Other Causes .		...	...	...	...	.....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		6	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	10

Population estimated to middle of 1909, 2,875.  
of legitimate infants, 10.

Births in the year, 118.  
Deaths from all causes at all ages, 46.

Deaths in the year

